(b) Subject to the provisions of Act I of 1858, minor irrigation works are kept reasonably efficient at the expense of Government. Board's Standing Order No. 87 lays down detailed instructions in the matter. There is no rule that repairs should be carried out only at fixed intervals.

(c) & (d) Spring channels ordinarily come under the category of minor irrigation works and the answer given to clause (b) applies to them also; but in most districts the clearance of deposits from spring channels is an item of customary labour to be performed by the ryots under Act I of 1858.

Repairs to and maintenance of Spring Channels in the North Arcot district.

* 294 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the number and extent of wet ayacuts under spring channels in North Arcot district is;

(b) the total assessment paid thereon; and

(c) what the amount spent is on the repairs and maintenance of spring channels by the Government during the years 1930, 1931 and 1932?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Complete information is not available. A report has been called for.

Damage caused to the Mangalagiri division, Guntur district by floods in the Kistna.

* 295 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that certain villages in the Mangalagiri division of Guntur district were seriously affected by the recent floods in the Kistna;

(b) what the villages so affected are;

(c) whether the Government have received any reports from the District Collector, Guntur, regarding the extent of the damage and the value of the losses incurred; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to place the information on the table of the House?

A.—(a) *to* (d) An extract (relating to Guntur taluk) from the final report of the Collector is annexed.[a] The villages in Guntur taluk mentioned in previous reports as affected by the floods are Pratur, Mandadam, Venkatapalem, Kristnayapalem and Velagapudi. The Government have no more detailed information regarding this taluk.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 396–397 infra.

[2nd November 1933

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member how, seeing that nearly 7,000 acres of land have been damaged, the ryots escaped loss?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"The report says that practically there was no loss. If water flows over a certain land, it is not necessarily destroyed."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know what the word 'damage' means if it is not loss to the ryots?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"A crop may be damaged without being entirely lost."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Then does the Government admit that there has been some loss?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"Possibly only damage for the time being."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Is it not a fact that the ryots lost crops worth a lakh of rupees?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"Not that I know of."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"It is stated in the appendix to the answer that the approximate extent on which crop was damaged by the flood was 6,565 acres. The crops were tender having been partly raised in July and partly in August. Ryots are reploughing the fields which are dried up and raising fresh crops. Does it not mean that the first crop was lost?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"It had to be replanted in some cases."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"Was not the labour on the first crop wasted? Will they get back anything for it?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"Probably not."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"Is that not damage?"

11-30 a.m. The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"Yes, Sir, as stated in the answer, there was some damage."

Execution of drainage schemes recommended by the Settlement officer, Guntur district.

* 296 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what drainage schemes or part of the schemes recommended by the Settlement officer in the Guntur district have been carried out after the last resettlement?

A.—The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know when the report will be received?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I cannot say."